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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line number 1 with the following amended paragraph:

--CLAIM OF PRIORITY

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application serial no. 10/291,429 filed on November 12, 2002, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,700,013, which is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application serial no. 09/980,581 filed on February 26, 2002, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,602,898, which is a U.S. National Phase Application of International Application No. PCT/JP00/03592 filed on June 2, 2000, which is a PCT filing of Japanese Application No. 11/157181 filed on June 3, 1999, each of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.--